

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 10763 021803Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /059 W

----- 119768

R 021512Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8635

INFO AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

USDOCOSOUTH

SHAPEUSNR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10763

USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

SHAPEUSNR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE -- SITUATION REPORT

1. ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION REMAINS FUZZY AS PARTIES ARE OBLIGED TO FACE ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICERS FOR NEW PARLIAMENT WHICH CONVENES ON JULY 5 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS. IN A CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF JULY 1, OUTGOING CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT (DC) SENATE GROUP PRESIDENT BARTOLOMEI INDICATED THAT DC WILL PRESS FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SENATE LEAVING THE SOCIALISTS AND THE COMMUNISTS TO WORK OUT THE PROBLEM OF WHICH PARTY WOULD PROVIDE THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. SOME NEWSPAPERS JULY 2 SUGGEST THAT DC PRESIDENT FANFANI WILL BE HIS PARTY'S CANDIDATE FOR THE SENATE PRESIDENCY. BARTOLOMEI SAID THAT CONTACTS AMONG THE PARTIES HAD ALREADY BEEN INITIATED OVER THE DIVISION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY POSTS, INCLUDING ALSO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 10763 021803Z

COMMISSIONS OF THE TWO CHAMBERS, AND THAT JULY 2 WOULD PROB-

ABLY BE THE DECISIVE DAY IN THE INTER-PARTY BARGAINING.

2. MEANWHILE, THE PROCESS OF FORMING A NEW GOVERNMENT GOES FORWARD AT A SNAIL'S PACE. DC SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI HAS BEGUN HIS ROUND OF EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH LEADERS OF THE OTHER PARTIES AND MET JULY 1 WITH REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADERS. SOCIALIST LEADER DE MARTINO HAS REPORTEDLY DECLINED TO MEET ON A BILATERAL BASIS WITH ZACCAGNINI, ARGUING THAT ONLY A SESSION ATTENDED BY THE LEADERS OF ALL THE PARTIES OF THE "CONSTITUTIONAL ARC" CAN BE EFFECTIVE IN SEEKING TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THE CURRENT IMPASSE.

3. WITH ATTENTION FOCUSED ON BERLINGUER'S PARTICIPATION AT THE CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN BERLIN, THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) HAS GENERALLY BEEN BIDDING ITS TIME. IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN CORRIERE DELLA SERA JULY 2, DIRECTORATE MEMBER LUCIANO BARCA INDICATED THAT THE PCI IS OFFICIALLY HOLDING TO ITS MAXIMALIST POSITION OF INSISTING ON FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE NEXT GOVERNMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, BARCA NOTED THAT THE PCI HAS NEVER ADVANCED PROPOSALS ON A "TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT" ASSUMPTION AND SUGGESTED THAT THE PARTY IS AWAITING A CONCRETE PROPOSAL FROM THE DC. THE PCI'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL BE IN SESSION JULY 2-3 TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION AND TO ADOPT TACTICS FOR THE PARTY TO PURSUE IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

4. COMMENT. IN HIS JULY 1 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, BARTOLOMEI STRESSED THAT IT IS STILL FAR TOO EARLY TO PREDICT PRECISELY HOW THE POLITICAL SITUATION WILL EVOLVE. EMBASSY SHARES HIS ASSESSMENT THAT IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT A NEW GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORMED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. OUR CONTACT WITH YOUNG DC PARLIAMENTARIANS INDICATES RISING RESENTMENT OVER SIGNS THAT "HISTORIC LEADERS" SUPPORTED BY PARTY SECRETARY ARE FAILING EITHER TO BEGIN A REAL RENEWAL OR TO CONSULT THEM IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME10763
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760258-0120
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760794/aaaadfgs.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE -- SITUATION REPORT
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006